



*Sussex
Street
1935*

*Part of the
massive
change in
central
Cambridge
in the 1930s*

Cambridge STREETS Chronicle by Mike Petty

A chronology of redevelopment and change

Note: there are also Chronicles of areas of Cambridge – Mill Road, East Road, Market Hill etc

1888 10 05

Tenison Road: council want to borrow £4,000 to build [3.24]

1888

Trinity Street: St Michaels Court built [IC.10.16]

1889 04 19

King Street: Jubys Court “insanitary” [3.25]

1889

Sir – The Mill Road footbridge over the railway line was opened to the public on Monday August 3rd 1889. I was the last one to take the keys of the gates to the station – William Nelson. Sir - The iron footbridge over the railway on Mill Road had wooden steps and gave access to the open fields beyond it. In fact, so countrified was the area that when the Royal Standard was built it was known as ‘Apthorpe’s Folly’ from William Apthorpe the brewer who built it. The bridge now stands on Coldham Common where it spans the Newmarket Line – H.D.C. 35 01 26 [2.21]

1889

Mill Road railway bridge was built in 1889 and Percy North, the well-known chiropodist, remembers playing under the bridge arches when they were being constructed. There was a level crossing over the railway then but it was not much used because there was hardly any traffic. There was nothing beyond, Great Eastern Street and Argyle Street were just ballast pits for the railway and the only house was a large one where the Broadway stands today, he recalls. 60 08 06 & a

1889

Petty Cury: Veysey House demolition [2.15]

1889 11 15

Romsey Town: discordant meeting re roads [3.27]

1889 11 22

Sedgwick Avenue: proposed road between Newnham & Selwyn Colleges suggested by Prof. Sedgwick in letter [3.28]

1889 08 02

Tenison Road: opened, all but completed [2.20,3.26]

1890

1891

Mill Road: Salisbury Working Mens Club built [IC.6.19]

1891

Silver Street: houses demolished [IC.11.13]

1897 08 21

Guildhall Street: proposed new thoroughfare [2.19]

1898

Long Road: windmill pulled down [IC.6.4]

1901 02 16

Downing Street - Anatomy building corner Corn Exchange St & Downing St demolished ¢Graphic 16.2.1901 p4

1901 02 22

Castle Street: to purchase property to widen [1.7]

1901 10 07

St Andrew's St new Police & fire station opens [5.2]

1901 12 07

The wood paving of the main street of Cambridge from the station to the post office has now been completed and last evening the men engaged in the work had a dinner at the Red Lion. When the mind is carried back to the days of the Long Vacation when St Andrew's Street was so decidedly 'up', some impatience may be forgiven to shopkeepers and householders who were anxious that normal conditions should be restored. Credit should be given to the police for the excellent way the traffic was regulated during the 'upheaval'. There was not a single accident 01 12 07

1902 07 16

Castle Street: Cambridge Paving Committee had approached the vicar and churchwardens of St Giles' church to ascertain whether it would be possible to acquire a portion of the churchyard for the widening of Castle Street. They would agree provided that the work of excavating and collecting human remains be screened by a hoarding & the bodies reverently re-interred. Chesterton Road corner was a most dangerous one and when the improvement was carried out one corner out of the four would be cut back. 02 07 17

1903

Market Hill: block of property 2-3 Market Hill & 16-18

1903 01 02

St Edwards Passage bought by Barrett for £8,000 [3.23]

1903 08 11

Petty Cury - Sir – I believe a great number of antiquarians in Cambridge will learn with regret that the Falcon Inn Yard in Petty Cury has been removed to make way for modern improvements. So quietly has the old Falcon taken flight that I fear our local photographers have not secured pictures of the old buildings and its destruction has escaped even the lynx-eyed representatives of the Press. I am consoled that I have retained my water-colour drawing of this famous inn, which I made 25 years ago for 'Old Cambridge' – W.B. Redfern 03 08 11

1903 08 11

Petty Cury - Our attention has been drawn to the fact that another link with the fascinating past of Cambridge is being severed by the almost entire demolition of the one-time famous 'Falcon Inn'. Many years ago the front of the building, with its fine old gables facing Petty Cury, disappeared and about eight years ago the buildings on the left side of the Falcon Yard were demolished to make way for business extensions. Now the rooms on the right side are in process of demolition for extra accommodation for the Lion Hotel. The back part possessing a small specimen of the open gallery remains 03 08 11

1903 08 12

Petty Cury. Sir – the alarm about the old Falcon Inn, Petty Cury, being demolished unrecorded seems to me unnecessary. Certainly within the last 40 years I have sent out almost as many drawings of it, to say nothing of the etchings. It, with the old Wrestlers Inn, has been a small gold mine to me. One noticeable thing I might mention: it was the last inn to hang out a flag as a sign that the recruiting sergeant was at home – Robert Farren 03 08 12

1904 06 03

Peas Hill fire [6.10] fire at Corporation property Peas Hill, used by Bell as corn merchants premises [2.4] - CDN 3.6.1904

1904 06 16

Cambridge Library committee referred to the recent fire on Peas Hill and the destruction of the premises adjacent to the library. But for the skill of the fire brigade the reading room must have been destroyed and the contents lost. The accumulation of books, pictures and scarce literature could never be replaced. Now the old dilapidated buildings should be cleared away and a more appropriate building erected. Next year they would celebrate the jubilee of the opening of the library and the appointment of Mr Pink as Librarian. The Library Association should be invited to hold their annual meeting at Cambridge, free of charge. 1904 06 16

1904 09 03

Green Street, Cambridge would hardly be suspected of any pretensions to the romantic. Its well-ordered lodging-houses, the policemen who parade it and the milkmen who visit it, all seem to bar the entrance to anything more fanciful. Yet it is home to a Russian Pole, Mr Ignatius Knaster who became a political offender by the publication of a political pamphlet dealing with the conditions in Poland and was given the alternative of incarceration or banishment. 1904 09 03

1904 11 17

Mill Road - Up to last night there was a cluster of buildings, workshops, tool-sheds and fowl houses at the apex of a triangle formed by property facing Mill Road, Hemingford Road and Belgrave Road, Cambridge. Today nothing remains but a heap of charred timber and twisted iron. Fire has made a clean sweep of the evidences of industry of several inhabitants and caused damage of about £250. Mr G. Woolfenden, an electrician, has lost a workshop. Most people living in the three roads have a wooden erection of some kind at the end of their gardens and those burnt down stood side by side or back to back in an area covered by 20 square yards. CDN 17.11.1904

1905 02 04

Downing Street: building to start on corner of St Andrews Street: site cleared months ago, have needed police to regulate traffic since view obstructed by hoardings [4.15,4.16]

1905 05 02

Petty Cury - An outbreak of fire occurred at the premises of Messrs Hallack and Bond, wholesale grocers, Petty Cury, Cambridge. About 11.18 pm smoke and flames were discovered issuing from a store room. The alarm was at once given and the horsed fire escape, tender and hose cart were soon on the scene. With the aid of one hydrant, the inmates of the building and the firemen succeeded in extinguishing the outbreak just in time to prevent a serious conflagration 05 05 02b

1905 08 26

Market Hill - Sir – I wish to protest against an act of vandalism. The fine view of Cambridge from the corner of Petty Cury with the stalls, old fountain and University Church has been ruined by the erection of a lofty 'stink pipe' in the middle of the Market Place, cutting the east window of the church in half. Why could this not have been run up the side of the Guildhall where it would not have been such an eyesore? – Cantab. 05 08 26c

1905 12 09

Mill Road - Cambridge Corporation's new Mill Road storeyard is nearing completion on land behind the Free Library. Here material for the repair and making of roads is stored, vehicles housed and mended and appliances for any contingency kept in readiness. It has a siding to the railway for granite or cement, an open shed for refuse vehicles and stables together with accommodation for two steam rollers. There are blacksmiths, carpenters and wheelwright's shops and a men's mess room 05 12 09a & b

1906 01 01

Mill Road - Fire gutted the Mill Road Boot Stores adjoining St Barnabas Church, Cambridge. The flames rose to a great height and melted some of the lead of the windows of the church. The building was a one-storeyed erection, largely composed of wood. A number of wooden packing cases at the rear formed a source of danger as they connected with a thatched cottage and a stonemason's yard adjoining was also seriously placed. 06 01 01

1906 02 23

King's Lane scheme – 06 02 23b

1906 04 19

Northampton St - Collins Passage, off Northampton Street, consisted of a number of very dilapidated houses closely packed together. They had low ceilings and the floor was insecure. There was no ventilation behind and a high brick wall at the front so they got no sun at all except for half-an-hour at the height of summer. They were unfit for human habitation. A good many other premises in the area were defective but did not justify wholesale demolition. 06 04 19c

1906 05 17

Emmanuel St - An agreement had been made between the Borough Council and Emmanuel College for the closure of Emmanuel Street and the creation of a new road further north. As a result the college had taken no steps to erect new buildings on the site of two dilapidated houses that had been pulled down and had lost ground rent for several years. Now the council had changed its mind. They should make compensation by providing, free of cost, a subway to link college property on either side of Emmanuel Street 06 05 17b & c

1906 06 14

Castle St - The junction of Castle Street and Northampton Street, Cambridge, was continually congested and the corner ought to be improved. The council wanted to demolish a cottage and widen

the road, but the owner wanted £260 for a property that a few years ago was worth £120: that was too great an increase 06 06 14a-c

1906 08 07

King's Parade - Cambridge fire brigade undoubtedly saved a portion of King's Parade, St Edward's Passage and Peas Hill from destruction by fire. There are numerous old houses, warehouses, sheds and outhouses of all descriptions, many constructed chiefly of wood. It broke out at Mons Buol's bakery, 17 Kings Parade; the bakehouse was gutted and hundreds of pounds of chocolate, almonds and sugar damaged. 06 08 07

1906 09 08

Hills Road - Many residents have been plagued by the clouds of dust raised by motor cars and other traffic. Dust-destroying measures have usually involved evil-smelling solutions but now Cambridge is to experiment by pouring boiling tar over the surface of Hills Road and sprinkling it with granite chips. The section chosen where the wood paving ends near Brooklands Avenue, but it carries heavy traffic and is constantly watered so the new surface may peel off. 06 09 08c

1906 09 08

Bene't Street: cobbles to be replaced with wooden paving [4.17]

1907 12 29

Barnwell - A London newspaper describes Barnwell as a slum area of Cambridge chiefly inhabited by brickmakers; it claims there is little traffic along the road but within four minutes walking one passes 14 alehouses, some positively next door to each other. However in recent years the area has undergone a great improvement with the building of the Abbey Estate, and the amount of traffic has increased. But no one will gainsay the comments on the number of superfluous public houses. 06 12 29d

1908 05 02

Bridge Street: - Sir – I have traced the history of Blackmoor Head Yard, Bridge Street, for nearly 100 years, and find it has been the custom for occupants to hang their washing across the yard. Laundresses have lived there and dried everything in the same way. Dr Dennis Adams had the stables at the bottom of the yard and when our King was up at Cambridge he often used to come there and hold the linen up with his stick to pass under it without making any fuss at all. Where must we dry them now? In the bedrooms? – S. Collingwood 08 05 02b

1908 08 07

Castle St - Fire gutted Mr Huggins sweet and confectionary premises at 51 Castle Street, just beyond the County Shire Hall Neighbouring shopkeeper, Mr Clayden, broke down the door and tried to extinguish the flames with mats while others threw buckets of water on it before the fire brigade arrived. The shop stood in the midst of some old properties which were in great risk of being destroyed, but they escaped with scorched walls. 08 08 07

1908 08 29

Northampton Street: road improvement reveals walls of White Horse, widen corner but Chesterton Lane corner still need attention; is gathering place of workshy [1.9, IC.8.6, 6.1]

1908 09 11

Petty Cury has been closed to vehicular traffic during the operation of replacing the Val de Travers cement that was removed to admit the underground telephone wires. This work by Italian workmen has been watched with much interest. The material in the form of steaming hot powder is placed on its concrete bed and rammed and levelled with hot irons. The rapidity with which the stuff hardens and becomes fit for use is quite remarkable. CWN 08 09 11 p5

1910

1911 07 22

Emmanuel Street : Southgate Lodge & house adjoining being demolished for new wing of Emmanuel College - are only modern houses in street, built 40 years ago by R.R. Rowe as architects office. Borough had intended to swap this Street for new land on which could have built another road, CDN campaigned against & proposal dropped; however to install underpass [6.2]

1911 07 27

For some time housebreakers have been busily engaged in demolishing Southgate Lodge & the house adjoining to make room for the new wing of Emmanuel College. It is curious to note that the houses that are being demolished were the only really modern houses in Emmanuel Street. On either side are picturesque old buildings of considerable antiquity, and these the hand of the housebreaker has spared, for the present. [CDN 27 July 1911]

1911

Market Hill: roads around Market Square widened [5.12]

1911

Sidney Street: property purchased for street improvement [5.13]

1912

Chesterton Lane: buildings at junction of Magdalene St demolished [IC.3.2]

1912

Jesus Lane: widening at Sidney street corner includes provision of footpath & rounding off corner [4.20]

1912 10 04

Brooklands Avenue residents happy to repair road once council makes decision about scheme for including it as part of a thoroughfare from Newnham Croft to Hills Road - 12 10 04b

1912 12 20

Brooklands Avenue is a private road with a gate at the Trumpington Road end, which is sometimes closed, though one footpath is a public path. Part of the road is invariably in a disgraceful state of repair and during bad weather is little better than a quagmire with mud up to one's ankles. Yet if a cyclist, to avoid the ruts and filth, takes to the public footpath he is liable to be pounced upon by a policeman. The road connects up Trumpington and Cherry Hinton, important parts of the extended Borough, and should be taken over by the Corporation. 12 12 20c

1913

Downing Street: Downing Court (south side near St Andrews Street) demolished [IC.3.13]

1913

Sidney Street: rebuilding, Eaden Spearing & Raynes demolished [IC.10.21]

1914

Trumpington Street: buildings demolished for Addenbrooke's Outpatients Department [IC12.3]

1914 01 24

Bridge Street: rumours that St Johns to build & tenants under notice to quit - "have heard same story last 25 years [5.14]

1914 01 24

St Peter's Street: old primitive Methodist chapel & houses in hands of house breakers & others will rise [5.15]

1914 01 31

Emmanuel Street: last picturesque houses on north side of new subway disappear [5.16]

1914 04 04

Bene't Street: paved end to end in wooden blocks in 7.5 hours [6.4]

1914 04 17

The unhappy conjunction of the name Sadd and Greef on King's Parade has been a well-worn joke. Now it is about to be broken. Mr Sadd is soon to move to premises in St Edward's Passage while Mr Greef is moving further up the Parade. The Sadds began business last century as dealer in antiques and a hairdresser in one of a row of old-fashioned houses standing in front of King's College. When the cottages were pulled down they moved opposite. His son made a sketch of the old houses 14 04 17g, falls from Kings Sept [NI.3.17]

1914 07 11

Jesus Lane: arbitration between Corporation & Sidney Sussex re strip property required for road widening - £1,471 [6.6]

1914 08 14

Jesus Lane widening, Sidney Sussex awarded £1,471 - 14 08 14

1915 05 07

Improvement street from Newnham Mills to Lammas Land; Coach & Horses reconstructed, now new building 15 05 07 p3

1915 05 21

Road between Silver St Bridge and Queens; Road may be named Newnham Road 15 05 21 p5

1915 11 27

Wheeler Street new building - old cottages swept away gaining two yards for thoroughfare, corner premises set back so Bell Inn protrudes prominently [6.16]

1919 06

Sidney Street: 27,380 feet in Sidney Street & Hobson Street bought by G.P. Hawkins for £32,000 [2.23]

1920

1920

Regent Street: Fountain Inn demolished [IC.10.9]

1920 01 28

Should Sussex Street be widened; need to improve centre town, blunders of the past, council debate – Ch 20 01 28a

1920 04 07

Sussex Street to be widened, proposed cinema vetoed as would delay work on houses; suggestion that council buy plot and erect municipal cinema to avoid paying heavy compensation – Ch 20 04 07a, b

1922

Jesus Lane: widening & new wall at junction Bridge St [IC.5.17]

1922

Corporation proposals for the widening and improvement of Sidney Street and the lower part of Petty Cury met with vigorous opposition. In 1922 they had taken powers to prescribe frontage lines and in 1924 when Messrs Woolworth's and Sainsbury's came to Cambridge they agreed to set back their premises and gave the land to the Council. Various other places were reconstructed and now the frontage line had been prescribed from Sainsbury's to Millers with the exception of Almond's and the Prudential Assurance Company. 35 04 10 & a, 35 04 11

1922 03 11

Brooklands Ave - It was an attempt to make a road from Hills-road to Trumpington-road. At present the greater part of the Avenue was open but it was in regard to the smaller part at the Trumpington-road end that the application was made. At the present time there was a gate fastened there and kept locked by the owner. He understood that people going to houses in the Avenue were allowed to go though and he could understand that the gentleman would like to keep it a quiet place. Personally he would oppose it if he lived there. 22 03 11

1923 09

Coe Fen: scheme for road across approved [3.2]

1924 04 23

A consistory court heard a petition by the vicar of St Andrew the Great, Cambridge, for permission to sell to the corporation a strip of land in the church grounds required for street widening purposes. They all knew that the streets were hopelessly inadequate to deal with the volume of traffic which passed through. The only possible alternative would be to pull down the front of Christ's College. If that strip of churchyard were taken and added to the street there might be less risk of accident, and the church would not press the claims of the dead at the expense of the claims of the living 24 04 23

1924 05 24

At Cambridge council Alderman Starr said a number of buildings in Hobson Street were coming down. It would make it a 40 feet road and they believed it would eventually become a very important thoroughfare. Unfortunately they were up against a very difficult problem at the Sidney Street end because they had a bank on one side and a college on the other. But this was really a safety point because converging traffic would have a slight obstacle to pull them up 24 05 24c

1925 11

Newnham Mill: demolition of 2nd chimney [6.14]

1926 12

Coe Fen: road opened [3.5]

1927

Norfolk Street: Labour Party Hall opened [IC.8.8]

1927

Trumpington Street: Peterhouse Hostel demolished [IC 12.5]

1927 01 08

Victoria Avenue: widening suggested [3.21]

1927 02 10

Market Passage - Since the Cambridge Conservative Club in Market Passage had been destroyed by fire there had been many busybodies who knew exactly what was going to happen to the club premises and the site. The Chairman could now tell them: it was going to be rebuilt and rise like a Phoenix from the ashes. A very satisfactory arrangement had been made with the Northern Insurance Company and they had today received a cheque from the company. 27 02 10

1927 03

Sussex Street: site withdrawn at £20,000 [3.8]

1927 04 06

St Mary's St - Great St Mary's church council replied to the Corporation's plans to widen St Mary's Street. They cannot sanction obtaining a faculty for the proposed work as increased heavy motor traffic coming so close to the church will be a very real danger to the safety of the foundations and fabric. Widening the street would create a death-trap and they propose to adopt every means in their power to prevent the scheme being carried out. 27 04 06

1927 07

Kings Parade: heavy railings in front of Kings College removed [3.9]

1928

Bridge Street: road widening [IC.2.1]

1928

Mill Road: Romsey Town Labour Club opened [IC.7.2]

1928 03 03

Magdalene St - Magdalene College hopes that a start will soon be made on the building of a new court on the opposite side of the Street. Plans have been drawn up for a three-sided brick court open to the river, traditional in style. The flank parallel with Magdalene Street will not interfere with the existing shops, but the thoroughfare is long overdue for widening and from the remodelled bridge there would then be a noble prospect of the new court with a lawn or gravel forecourt separated from the pavement by a low parapet. 28 03 03

1928 07

Sussex Street: island site sold to Sidney Sussex College [3.10]

1928 07 28

Mill Pool - Kings Mill site replacement [1.12]

1928 10 23

Market Hill - What is probably the largest single deal in Cambridge business property ever known has just been completed. A well-known local young man has purchased property with frontages in Market Hill, Petty Cury and Sidney Street and this will be developed by a company consisting of Cambridge people. It includes premises occupied by the Craft Shoe Company, the Cambridge Chronicle offices and printing works and Boots the chemist. As Messrs Boots recently secured a large amount of property in Petty Cury and Sidney Street it would appear that big changes will be seen in this part of town when both sites are developed. 28 10 23

1929

Hobson Street: buildings replaced by alterations for Dorothy Cafe [IC.5.10]

1929

Trumpington Street: trees in front of St Catharine's College removed [IC 12.4]

1929 12 02

Sidney St - An interesting improvement scheme will shortly be undertaken in Petty Cury and Sidney Street. Messrs Boots the Chemist have acquired extensive property with a view to re-housing their old establishment which has grown during some 30 years. Now the time is ripe to erect an emporium to provide an attractive shopping centre for patrons of all classes. The architect is Mr Percy J. Bartlett of Nottingham and his primary consideration is an external appearance that will harmonise with

Cambridge's noble architectural traditions and raise the standard of commercial architecture. Building operations will commence early in the New Year CDN 2.12.1929

1929 12 05

Petty Cury - Heffer's wonderful new shop in Petty Cury, Cambridge, is a book lovers' paradise. In the basement are 'remainders' at reduced prices while the ground floor is devoted to the latest publications and an extensive foreign literature section. A wide range of second-hand volumes occupies most of the first floor where connoisseurs of original editions will find much to interest them at prices from £5 to £250. On the second floor are oriental, foreign travel and fine art books while higher still are Heffer's own publications, many of local interest. There is a special reference department and out-of-print books service. The front design successfully combines an old-world impression with a modern style. CDN 5.12.1929

1930

1930 03 19

Sidney Street: Demolition work has just begun on the Sidney Street corner of Sussex Street as a first step towards the most important of reconstruction scheme for the improvement of Cambridge for many years. Sidney Sussex College will develop the whole side on modern lines; within the next year an imposing block of buildings, providing shops and offices will rise. It will be connected to Hobson Street by an artistically-designed crescent and colonnade of 12 shops which will allow vehicles to pass freely in the middle of Sussex Street. The most striking feature will be seen in the further development of the north side 30 03 19b

1930 03 22

Sussex St - There never was a time surely when there were so many works of destruction going on as at present. Little bits of old Cambridge are going one by one and elaborate new buildings are rising up in their place. Following demolition in Petty Cury and Sidney Street now we see old houses and shops in Sussex Street being knocked down. No wonder that those who come back to the town after a few years' absence express amazement at the changes they see. When we think of the bridges built at Newnham and Chesterton, of the streets that have been widened, the new recreation ground opened and the great business changes effected in the heart of the town we may well gasp. 30 03 22 a

1930 07 12

Castle Street: Sir – what good will be served by the narrowing of Castle Street? For as long as I can remember there have been cobbled areas alongside the pavements and cars have stood on them to avoid obstructing the main road. Now kerbs are being placed there. I regret the loss of one of the old-world features which used to make Cambridge an interesting town, though such things seem to count for little nowadays – A.S. Ramsey 30 07 12a

1930 07 25

Milton Road: Cambridge councillors have received consent for a new road from Milton Road to Histon Road at a cost of £18,135. St John's College would give the land which was required for housing purposes, it would be one of the best estates and the frontages would sell at very high price. Grants have been received for King's Hedges and Green End Road as part of the unemployment scheme with one-third of the labour being imported from the distressed areas. 30 07 25d

1930 09 03

Magdalene Street: Another example of the 'new Cambridge' in the making is the extensive site on which Magdalene College intends erecting an imposing new wing. It is at the rear of the Pickerel and Cross Keys yards originally occupied by Bird's vinegar and mustard factory. Mallory Court will provide the principal access but eventually a complete transformation will be effected by the demolition of all the property between the bridge and Northampton Street making Magdalene Street a broad and handsome thoroughfare. 30 09 03c

1931

Hobson Street: demolition at junction of Sussex Street [IC.5.12]

1931

New Square: converted from grass to car park [IC.7.17]

1931

St Andrews Street: site cleared for new Post Office [IC.9.10]

1931

Sidney Street: rebuilding on east side for Dorothy, Woolworths etc [IC.11.1]

1931 05

Sussex St demolition 1929-30, rebuild 1931 [6.13]

1931 10 02

Cherry Hinton Road - Ring road from Cherry Hinton Road across Coldham's Lane under construction – photo – 31 10 02t

1932

Magdalene Street: Magdalene College plan to demolish west side, doubling width; first stage implemented with Fisher Lane demolition [2.10]

1932 04 06

Sussex Street: new shops open [1.5]

1932 04 13

Magdalene Street: Large new buildings designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens are part of a comprehensive extension scheme by Magdalene College on land originally occupied by Bird's vinegar and mustard factory. For two years it has been one of Cambridge's biggest building contracts but the comparative obscurity of the site has kept it out of the public eye. Eventually the whole of the west side of Magdalene Street from the bridge to Northampton Street will be cleared for reconstruction with a more imposing bridge and a further college wing at right angles to the present one. 32 04 13

1932 04 15

Grange Road: Corpus Christi college is to auction 'Pinchurst' and eight acres of land facing Selwyn College, close to the new University Library. There is every reason to think that apart from preventing the covering of the site with ordinary houses, its purchase for collegiate use would in time be found to be a very wise step. The vendors may be trusted to give the friendliest consideration to any proposal that may tend to the advantage of the college. 32 04 15c

1932 04 16

Trumpington Street: St Catharine's was one of the colleges whose elaborate extension schemes met with a setback through the war. There was to have been a full elevation to Trumpington Street with a completely enclosed court beyond. Now the porter's lodge will be replaced, the cobbles removed and the whole area sown with grass to give a more balanced frontage. It is eight years since that the elm trees, which formed a grove, were cut down. 32 04 16

1932 05 14

King's Parade - There is praise for the improvements along King's Parade effected by the substitution of the low stone balustrade for the old hurdles and the construction of the light railings to separate King's College and Senate House Yard. All the work has been done by local labour. Messrs Coulson and Rattee and Kett have been the builders and the iron railings have been made by George Lister and Sons. 32 05 14a

1932 11 26

St Andrews Street: Llandaff House pulled down [1.17]

1933

Market Hill: Guildhall canopy removed as dangerous [IC.6.14]

1933 04 18

Grange Road proposed new road, Adams Road – 33 04 18 & 33 94 21

1933 05 26

Sidney St - Proposals to set back the line of buildings in Sidney Street would leave only two small properties jutting out between Woolworth's and the corner. There was no room for people to move on the pavement and it would be a great improvement. But Mrs Rackham said it was unreasonable to pay so much money: the owners demanded compensation that equated to nearly half a million pounds an acre. This was not new: when a building line was prescribed in King Street, property which formerly sold at £1,500 immediately fetched £2,000. 33 05 26 f & g

1933 08 28

Market Street: Changing face of Cambridge – Stetchworth diaries Market Street shop –33 08 28

1934

St Johns Street: St Johns College gateway restored [IC.5.18]

1934 03 06

Castle St - Sir – a report in the News says a new public house is to be built in place of the Three Tuns in Castle Street 'to fit in with the building going on in the neighbourhood'. Already quite a third of this district has been depleted of its residents by transferring them to new estates far away and then pulling down their old homes with a consequent detriment to trade. While agreeing to the demolition of uninhabitable houses I would like to know when building is to commence on the many plots of land which now lie derelict and so bring back some of the lost trade to the district – 'Tradesman' 34 03 06

1934 07 28

Petty Cury: widening scheme [1.19]

1934 08 01

Gonville and Caius College's scheme for the complete rebuilding of the block of shops and houses on the north side of Cambridge Market Hill has been finally approved. At present the site from Rose Crescent to St Mary's Court is occupied by a group of houses, mostly of the 18th century. Their disappearance will be regretted, even by those who knew how dilapidated they had become behind their neat Georgian facades. But the whole effect of the completed block should stifle these regrets. The shops will be set back seven feet with upper rooms carried on slender pillars. 34 08 01 [1.1, Ic. 6.17]

1934 08 03

Sidney Street: widening proposed [1.2, 1.19]

1935

Peas Hill: houses on west side demolished for Arts Theatre [IC.8.15]

1935

Market Hill: rebuilding on corner of Rose Crescent [IC.6.15]

1935 04 10

Demolition work on Peas Hill for the new Guildhall has led to an architectural discovery of outstanding interest. It has revealed the residence and business premises of a well-to-do Tudor merchant which was subsequently divided up into a detached and two semi-detached houses. The magnificent front was covered up with lath and plaster in the reign of Queen Anne and finished with mock bricks. Dummy eaves were also added. Now each piece has been carefully taken down and numbered for preservation and re-erection. 35 04 10

1935 04 10

Corporation proposals for the widening and improvement of Sidney Street and the lower part of Petty Cury met with vigorous opposition. In 1922 they had taken powers to prescribe frontage lines and in 1924 when Messrs Woolworth's and Sainsbury's came to Cambridge they agreed to set back their premises and gave the land to the Council. Various other places were reconstructed and now the frontage line had been prescribed from Sainsbury's to Millers with the exception of Almond's and the Prudential Assurance Company. The Surveyor said the street was urgently in need of widening to cope with increased traffic 35 04 10 & a, 35 04 11

1935 05 24

Silver Street: demolition for Walnut Tree Court, Queens College [IC.11.15, 6.3]

1935 06 01

"Never before has Cambridge witnessed so much pulling down & building up" [1.20]

1935 08 28

Sidney Street: New front to Lloyd's Bank – photo – 35 08 28a

1935 11 22

As a Cambridge Corporation steam roller made its majestic way along Adam and Eve Row the road gently subsided. So did the steam roller as one wheel became buried nearly up to the axle, fracturing the water main. Mr A.C. Mallyon, the driver, said "I felt the roller sink a little so opened the regulator to try and get it past the spot before it sank, but before you could say 'one' it was in. If I hadn't had hold of the regulator handle I reckon I should have fallen overboard". It was several hours before the roller was eventually 'rescued' by means of jacks and the main repaired. 35 11 22b pics 35 11 22c

1935 12 16

Sir – the de-population of Castle End has brought a serious decline in trade in this district. Slum clearance has seen the departure of many young families to the new residential estates in other parts of Cambridge and we are left with the old people whose requirements are practically nil. When a house is vacant it is condemned and pulled down so consequently no new residents come to take their place. Some sites have been empty for years and are growing a plentiful supply of weeds and thistles. When are we going to have new houses built on these vacant sites – Tradesman 35 12 16

1936

Sidney Street : Almond shop & neighbouring premises demolished [IC.11.5]

1936 04 18

The work of pulling down and building up in Cambridge goes merrily on. Anyone revisiting the town after only a few years' absence must be amazed at the remarkable changes taking place from the old Post Office to the Catholic Church. In a few years this will form the most important and best shopping centre in Cambridge. Now no.14 Regent Street, which was built at the end of the 18th century, will be pulled down by Messrs Herbert Robinson to make an extension of their business. This will mean a further improvement in the building line with a consequent street widening. 36 04 18b

1936 04 25

Sussex Street: north side demolished, rebuild similar to south side [1.24]

1936 12 31

Cambridge Place was a long, narrow cul-de-sac with a narrow entrance from Hills Road. It used to have an unenviable reputation but had now greatly improved. It was a convenient place for residents engaged in unskilled work who left their houses early and returned late. But the houses were unfit for human habitation. Nearly all the roofs were sunken, the doors perished, the plaster was decayed, the stairs dark and steep. They were all were damp, thirty-three shared a water tap with another house and none had a water closet inside nor any proper place to keep food, an Inquiry heard. 36 12 30b & c, picture 36 12 31

1937

Bridge Street: Evans Passage demolished, demolition for cycle sheds Castle St Police houses & Recreation Room constructed [IC.2.17, 2.19]

1937

Sidney Street: demolition at corner of Petty Cury [IC.11.10]

1937 01

Regent Street: Union House, new shops & flats [6.12]

1937 11 16

Barton Road: Newnham Villa demolished to allow road straightening [IC.1.13, 4.22]

1937 12 08

Sir – two months ago I visited Kings Hedges Road and was surprised to find that an entirely new, first class road has been constructed, sewered, channelled, kerbed, grass verged. This has been done by the council under an agreement with the owners who threw into the highway just under half an acre of land, worth £50. The total cost of making the road was nearly £1,500. The building speculators have received a substantial gain, a splendid road, enhanced price for the houses erected, resulting in a bigger profit for them at the expense of the ratepayers – Geo. Edwards 37 12 08

1938 03 05

Part of Sidney Street was closed to traffic following the development of a bulge in the front wall of the premises of Austin & Co., coal merchants. The bulge is sufficiently marked to be easily visible. Last night crowds gathered in the expectation that the wall might fall, but they were disappointed. In shops on either side it was a case as 'business as usual'. Traffic has been diverted via Petty Cury and St John's Street while builders work on the affected wall 38 03 05 & a

1938 04 30

The proposed new buildings for St John's College involve the immediate erection of buildings to complete the present Chapel Court with wings projecting beyond to the north and east. These should be ready for occupation by Michaelmas 1939, including 50 undergraduates and ten fellows' sets of rooms. There will be an open court facing Bridge Street should the houses eventually be taken down and the road widened and ultimately a riverside court overlooking Magdalene 38 04 30 & a

1938 06 21

Bridge Street redevelopment by St John's college discussed – 38 06 21

1938 07 22

Amongst the many improvements in Cambridge during the past few years there is none more striking than that which has been effected in Sussex Street. Those who recall the dark narrow lane of bygone days, with its overhanging roofs on either side, and its small, ill-lit shops, will hardly recognise the imposing street that has emerged from the builders' hands. When the first part of the scheme was completed it gave promise of a really worth-while improvement, and now that the other side of the street has been given a new face, with its line of modern shops and shop-fronts, the full effect is

visible. Sussex Street is the most striking of the many improvements made in Cambridge during the past few years. 38 07 22

1938 10 07

William Coad of Cavendish Avenue has come up with an answer to the need for underground A.R.P. shelters. His scheme is to construct a sub-way car park underneath Cambridge Market Square with inlet and outlet ramps, which, in the event of an emergency, could be converted into an effective shelter accommodating several thousand people. A nominal car-parking fee would eventually pay for the initial outlay and alleviate the need for suitable garaging for business men coming into the town. 38 10 07

1939

St Andrews Street: buildings on corner of Emmanuel Street demolished [IC.9.13]

1939 02 23

No.7 Petty Cury, comprising a double-fronted shop in the occupation of Messrs Lipton, the upper floors providing part of the bedroom accommodation of the Lion Hotel was offered for sale by auction. Shop property in the heart of the shopping centre of Cambridge seldom came to market by public auction and formed an excellent purchase for occupation, speculation or investment. It would be very difficult to find a much better investment. Demand was especially keen in Cambridge where the best shopping area was limited owing the centre being 'horseshoed' by college buildings. But it failed to reach its reserve and was withdrawn at £11,750 (about £650,000 today) 39 02 23a

1939 10

Bridge Street: demolition progresses [4.25]

1940

1945 02 16

Queens Road: mounting block returned Queens Road; had been damaged by RAF mechanics using it as anvil & moved Kings Fellows gardens for safe keeping 16.2.1945, CDN 26.8.1950

1949 09 19

Clement Place: Cambridge's only thatched cottage, Clement Place, has thatch renewed [5.4]

1949 12 05

Gothic Street: tenants petition re proposed demolition [2.8]

1950 09 27

The news that Mr Douglas Nicholes is disposing of his well-known drapery and outfitting business in Mill Road will be received with regret by local people who admire the pioneer spirit and enterprise of a family concern. There are still people who can remember the early days of what was then a small lock-up shop surrounded by fields – known as Feke's Meadows - on both sides of the roads on the town side. It is 68 years since Mr W.D. Nicholes founded the business. In those early days they were the largest wholesalers of foreign goods in East Anglia. The retail side was developed later and menswear has always been a speciality 50 09 27

1951

Lensfield Road: demolition for new Chemistry Labs [IC.6.2]

1951 01 23

Cambridge town planning committee say there can be no justification for a spine relief road between Histon Road corner and Jesus Lane merely to preserve for a few years more buildings on the west side of Magdalene Street which, although of some architectural interest, are sub-standard from every other

point of view. Pending demolition the commercial use of the buildings should be terminated, doing away with the necessity for vehicles to wait outside 51 01 23

1951 01 27

Downing Street: old Corn Exchange demolished [2.9, 5.5]

1951 03 14

Lion Yard: carpark plans [3.6]

1952 01 14

Magdalene St - Sir. Twenty-five years ago Magdalene College started a scheme which might have involved the widening of Magdalene Street and the removal of buildings opposite the college. But it does not now contemplate the completion of the scheme and is now strongly opposed to the widening of the street and the demolition of the buildings on the west side. The College would be strongly prejudiced if it should be divided by a street similar in character to the widened part of Bridge Street and would strongly object to such a change of character and loss of amenity in the neighbourhood – Henry Willink, Master. 52 01 14

1952 10 18

Magdalene Street: The County Development Plan public inquiry took a dramatic turn when Magdalene College announced it had decided to oppose proposals to widen Magdalene Street. The “donnish mind” did not often descend to take part in proceedings of this kind but this is a “bad plan and would be a disaster both to the University and the City of Cambridge”, their counsel said. “You should not have motor traffic moving so fast that the lives of pedestrians and motorists are imperilled”. Everyone wants Cambridge to remain a place in which the pedestrian, the cyclist and the motorist are more or less on an equal footing. 52 10 18

1952 10 29

Magdalene St - Cambridge City council has decided not to proceed with their proposal to widen Magdalene Street and reconstruct the great bridge. They had heard objections by the University and a statement on behalf of Magdalene College & believed that with mutual co-operation between the city and colleges some of the causes for the present traffic congestion could be removed. But if it became a choice of either the spine relief road or of widening Magdalene Street then they would choose the latter alternative. 52 10 29

1952 11 12

East Road: 91% of properties in “short life” or “no life” categories - 100 years old & in poor condition propose East Road as traffic route [3.11]

1953 07 24

Market Hill: top of fountain in Market Hill removed - 50% material useless, would cost £2,200 to rebuild; figures removed to Folk Museum [5.1, 5.6]

1953 10 12

Market Hill: The condition of the stone of the conduit head on Cambridge Market Hill has been found to be much worse than anticipated during recent demolition work and so the Council will be recommended not to rebuild it. The condition of the stone was such that the only part which could be safely re-used was the four pillars and the cost of restoration would be at least £4,000, double the previous estimate. They propose to loan the carved figures from the conduit to the Folk Museum. 53 10 12

1953 10 12

Market Hill: A decision not to rebuild the Conduit head in Market Hill, Cambridge was described as a retrograde step by Ald James. “I know it is the fashion to run down Victorian architecture but I think it was very seemly. I think we should rebuild it in the same style”. But Ald Priest said “If in ten years’

time people see pictures of the Conduit as it was, there will be nothing to prevent them from replacing it by photographs. The majority of people are quite satisfied and the Secretary of the Preservation Society has written to say how nice we have made it". 53 10 12

1954 01 20

Sidney St - Cambridge planners are contemplating the rebuilding of premises in Sidney Street to complete the road widening between Petty Cury and Holy Trinity Church. In 1939 the Essex Insurance Company agreed to rebuild nos 62-64 Sidney Street but owing to the war the scheme was postponed. Then in 1943 they sold no.64 to Messrs Boots who are now seeking planning permission for change of use and this is an opportune time for the scheme to go ahead. 54 01 20

1954 07 20

Planners have approved a new development between St Andrew's Street and Emmanuel New Court, Cambridge. There will be shops on the ground floor and offices above and the building will be of a high architectural standard in keeping with its position in the centre of the city. Provision must be made for a widening of Emmanuel Street and be sited to allow for a free circulation of the shopping traffic generated. Car parking facilities are advocated, either by way of a basement or by access to a space on the roof.

1954 08 06

St Andrew's Street: Emmanuel College has announced proposals for building a new block of shops and offices on the corner of St Andrew's Street. They will lease the property to the Prudential Assurance Company who will undertake what is by far the largest and most important commercial development since the opening of Woolworth's Stores in Sidney Street. The existing buildings will be completely taken down and a new block erected in their place with shops on the ground floor and offices above. With the parking problem so much in the forefront it will provide sufficient car parking for its occupants. Though they may be some who will regret the disappearance of the cottages in Emmanuel Street few will argue against the removal of the red brick 'giant' known as Rance's Folly with its towering storeys and overblown construction which is now used as University offices. CDN 6.8.1954

1955

Lensfield Road: Lensfield House demolished [IC.6.1]

1955 07 01

Emmanuel Street: demolition [3.13, 3.14]

1955 07 02

Emmanuel Street: Miss Kathleen Payne, 76, is retiring after a lifetime in the newsagents' business as her shop in Emmanuel Street is to be pulled down. It marks the end of one of Cambridge's familiar landmarks. The business was started by her father who remembered selling his first C.D.N. in 1888. Miss Payne has lived there all her life & recalls when chickens used to run down St Andrew's Street before the days of super shops, large cinemas and motor buses 55 07 02

1956 02 01

Castle St - A planning inquiry into who owns a garage in Castle Street, Cambridge, came to an abrupt end when an agreement was reached. Mr L.N. Reynolds will be allowed to pull down two condemned cottages and erect a paint store. The whole of the site was ugly and it would not destroy the amenities of the area. The County was interested in it for 'local government purposes' as it allowed a clear view of Castle Mound. 56 02 01

1956 02 10

East Road demolition – 56 02 10a & b [3.17]

1956 02 28

Corn Exchange St Demolition is taking place in Corn Exchange Street as part of the final scheme for the redevelopment of the area. Although final plans are as yet unsettled empty offices are being demolished and the land will be used as an extension to the Lion Car Park. A number of dilapidated houses in Park Street that were condemned before the war are also being pulled down. 56 02 28b & c [3.18]

1956 04 14

Park Street: demolition, includes no 60, the home of Spurgeon [3.18, 3.19]

1956 04 19

Fitzroy St - An enquiry heard that Cambridge city council had wanted to purchase land at the junction of Fitzroy Street and Wellington Street, pull down the old houses and use the land to re-site industry displaced from the East Road area. They offered to pay the current price but the owner, a former chairman of the Council's Finance Committee, said that if the land had potential for light industry then the price should be higher. Eventually negotiations broke down. Now he applied to redevelop the area, but the council opposed his plans. 56 04 19a & b

1956 04 21

Thoday St - The origin of Thoday Street – 56 04 21b

1956 11 10

Garry Drive, a private street and a cul-de-sac just off King's Hedges Road which ends at the railway, was constructed by a Mr Naylor. He put down kerbs and channels and in May 1939 was contemplating finishing the road himself, but the war intervened. He then left for Australia but his wife owns three properties and has written from Melbourne objecting to the council's proposed charge for making up the road. 56 11 10b

1956 11 27

Christ's Lane - A proposal to close Christ's Lane and provide an alternative footway between Drummer Street and St Andrew's Street was approved in 1954. But now Christ's College have proposed an alternative consisting of an arcade leading into a central courtyard then through another arcade to Drummer Street. The council would be responsible for maintaining, cleaning and lighting it 56 11 27a

1957 04 04

Hurst Park Avenue windmill demolished [4.29]

1957 04 16

Lensfield Road: The central island containing the underground public convenience at Hyde Park Corner is to be removed to make way for new traffic signals. The toilets might be resited on Lensfield Road where trees and a fence will provide a screen from the Scott Polar Research Institute. But the University suggests that Parker's Piece would be a better location. 57 04 16a

1957 06 21

St Andrew's Street: Rance's Folly, the large redbrick house now being demolished in St Andrew's Street once had several lifts, four bathrooms and central heating – as well as a swimming pool. Guests even played tennis on the roof. It was built by Henry Rance who was Mayor in 1878 and 1882 – when he held council meetings in his dining room - and included a ballroom whose floor was laid by experts brought specially from Germany. Here his granddaughters were never at a loss for partners. 57 06 21 & 21a [IC.9.15,5.7]

1957 08 23

Bradwells Court: plans [3.22]

1957 09 14

Trinity Street: Trinity College has started its first large-scale works this century. They will reconstruct nos.29-34 Trinity Street with hardly any alterations to the facade. The shops will remain on the ground floor but everything above is to be reconstructed to house 43 undergraduates in a small new court. This will reduce the overcrowding resulting from the termination of military service. 57 09 14 & a

1957 12 19

Tenison Road: Great Eastern House, the new British Railways office in Tenison Road, is a functional modern building with the high standard of architectural design necessitated in a University city. Shaped like a vast cube, its tiers of windows catch the light row upon row. Inside is the railwayman's dream. Gone are the rickety stairs, the walls in green or chocolate and cramped offices with old-fashioned coal fires. Instead there is light, ivory-coloured walls and glass partitions, a lecture room, bar and two billiard tables 57 12 19a, b, c [5.8]

1958 05 09

Gothic Street Clearance. Work is under way to clear sub-standard houses in Gothic Street and Doric Street, Cambridge. The site will soon be in use as a car park and will accommodate about 150 cars. It will have a temporary surface which will later be replaced with a permanent surface of tarmac. 58 05 09

1958 05 10

Fitzroy Street: Reston House, Fitzroy Street – John Reston, Master of Jesus 1546 bequeathed land which sold in 1956 to fund building - 58 05 10a

1958 09 11

Hills Road: houses demolished to make way for Highsett [4.1]

1958 11 15

Sidney Street: Boots shop front set back & rebuilding near Holy Trinity Church [4.2]

1958 12 12

Peas Hill: King's College announced a new rebuilding scheme in the city centre which will mean the demolition of the Central Hotel and café to provide more accommodation for students and a better headquarters for the Cambridge branch of the Midland Bank. The Bursar said the structure of the existing building is in a very parlous state and they could not for structural safety do less than rebuilding completely the whole interior. However this would only be forcing new wine into an old bottle so they had commissioned the design of a new building by Mr K.W, Capon of Architects' Co. Partnership 58 12 12c

1959 02 07

Emmanuel Street: redevelopment on St Andrews Street corner [4.3]

1959 02 12

Sidney Street: Work has begun on greatly increasing the area of Messrs Boots the Chemist's premises in Sidney Street by the demolition of the old Essex and Suffolk Assurance Company buildings. It will double the width of the frontage and the shopping area behind and provide twin entrances on to the street. The staff accommodation will be more than doubled and the facilities vastly improved. Boots believe that the staff cannot be expected to look after customers properly unless their own interests are properly served by the company: contented staff means contented customers. 59 02 12b & c

1959 06 18

St Andrew's Street: The giant new Prudential Building on the junction of St Andrew's Street and Emmanuel Street incorporates the latest building techniques with heating and hot water provided by electrical units which take power from the mains during 'off-peak' hours and store it for use during the day. Acoustic ceiling tiles provide quieter working conditions, floors are of a coloured plastic tile

and decorations in pastel shades. The basement contains a large garage and special storage to cater for the large use of bicycles by staff. 58 06 18

1959 09 12

Henrietta Street and St Eligius almshouses – 59 09 12c & d, 59 09 26, 59 09 28

1959 12 21

The controversy surrounding the Central Hotel in Peas Hill, which King's College want to knock down and replace by a new hostel for students has reached a new stage with the publication of a booklet. The St Edward's Committee was established when it was announced that the Central Hotel, a largely 17th-century building forming an integral part of a square around St Edward's churchyard, was to all appearances doomed. They believe it could be preserved and are pressing for a public inquiry into the proposals. 59 12 21c & d

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 01 23

Christ's Lane: closed [4.5]

1960 06 17

Bradwells Court : opened [4.5, 4.6]

1960 09 07

Sidney Street: widened [4.7]

1961

Arbury Road: demolition of house at entrance to Manor Farm, later site of Campkin Road [IC.1.2]

1961

Station Road : Kett's house demolished, Kett House built [IC.5.5, 6.7]

1961 03 10

The 'promontory', a building that formerly housed Prziborsky's hairdressing shop, with Ram Yard to its left and Round Church Street to the right, is to be cleared by the City Council to provide a wide lead-in to the new car park in Park Street. The cottages are not very beautiful and most have been condemned as unfit by the Public Health Department. But they are home to a small community of tenants including Tim Eiloart who crossed the Atlantic in a small balloon, Jasper Rose the artist-don who has a studio there and Graham Pollard, a numismatist at the Fitzwilliam Museum. Their lives are interconnected, they give supper parties and meet together to play Bach in an upstairs room. But now they must move elsewhere 61 03 10 & a

1961 05 09

The whole of 'The Broadway' on Mill Road is being put up for sale. It runs from Cavendish Road to Sedgwick Street and is the largest shopping area in the eastern half of Cambridge. It was built 23 years ago and consists of 14 shops with eight flats above. The London company that owns the site says it is a good investment: the properties currently realise £2,848 a year in rents which will increase to more than £4,000 in three years time. 61 05 09

1961 07

Petty Cury: Lion purchased July 1961 by Jack Cotton & Chas Clore for City Centre properties; largest single property transaction in Cambridge; by 1964 hotel closed & just bars open [16.3]

1961 07 20

Herbert Robinson's premises in Regent Street were erected in the early 1930s to the design of George Banyard, a well-known architect responsible for a number of Cambridge's principal buildings. They comprise extensive showrooms, garages and workshops together with substantial office premises

known as Llandaff Chambers. Now they are transferring to spacious new premises on Newmarket Road and the property is being offered for sale. The firm are retaining the electrical showrooms at 14 Regent Street 61 07 20 [12.8]

1961 08 18

Park Street: alterations [6.18]

1961 08 24

King Street: almshouses demolished for multideck park & new shopping centre [13.08]

1961 08 31

Prziborsky's barbers shop in Ram Yard is to be swept away by demolition and redevelopment. The site is to be incorporated into a new road leading to Park Street car park. It was founded in 1879 by Count Prziborsky after he left his position as barber at the Imperial Austrian court. The family connection elapsed in 1934 when the Count's son died and Mr Frederick Osborne took over the business. A ladies' hairdressing side catered for Girton and Newnham girls but was discontinued during the war 61 08 31a [446.16.8]

1961 12 01

A bold scheme to transform Cambridge Market Hill into the 'finest piazza in Europe' would involve banning traffic in King's Parade, demolition of a few buildings on the corner of St Mary's Passage and the complete clearance of the Market Place. The screen in front of King's college would be removed and the Senate House and Law Department buildings linked together to form one magnificent spacious vista, says architect G.M. Vickers 61 12 01b

1962 01 24

Park St & Round Church St alterations [6.19]

1962 02 10

Castle Street: demolition of cottages near Huntingdon Road [4.8]

1962 03 20

Station Road: Rattee & Kett building demolished to reveal Kett House [4.9]

1962 04 06

Norfolk Street: 60 Norfolk St demolished [6.20]

1962 05 03

An inquiry into the Bradmore Street area heard that 119 houses between Petersfield, East Road, Broad Street and the CCAT were unfit for human habitation and should be demolished under the slum clearance plan. The area would be used for extensions to the college and the Mill Road Sorting Office. But six householders objected. One lady had lived in her home for 50 years, she was 89 and blind and would find it difficult to move. Another had been deaf and dumb from birth; she had lived there for 54 years and was frightened at the prospect of being relocated. 62 05 03a

1962 05 10

The clean-cut façade of the offices of Messrs Ellison & Co. show up well at the end of the little court in the passageway between the Lion Hotel and Heffer's bookshop in Petty Cury. The offices were acquired by the Clore-Cotton Group's City Centre Properties when they bought the premises occupied by Heffer's and the freehold of that part of the Lion Hotel formerly held on lease from Emmanuel College. The area is scheduled for redevelopment as part of the Lion Yard scheme. 62 05 10a

1962 06 11

Park Street: design for new Union Building [4.12]

1962 09 21

Prospect Row: demolished, Free Press alone in sea of destruction [4.10]

1962 10

Market Street: Macintoshes demolition [7.2]

1962 10 06

King Street: almshouses demolished [4.14 7.1]

1962 11 23

Old buildings: call for negotiation before destruction [6.21]

1963

Mill Road: Playhouse Cinema demolished for Fine Fare Supermarket [IC.7.5]

1963 05 27

Until a few weeks ago there was a farm in the heart of Cambridge where cattle grazed in fields not a stone's throw from the University Library. Now Mr Dale of Grange Farm, Adams Road is moving and the livestock and implements have been sold. In 1939 the farm, owned by St John's, extended to some 200 acres but part of this was used for the building of a repair shop and later Churchill College. The farm house itself is large and rambling with 14 rooms and an absolute contrast to the nearby house on Herschel Road recently built by Lord Rothschild 63 05 27

1963 08 03

Parts of a tall building overlooking Cambridge Market Square are having to be evacuated because it is a danger to both occupants and the public. Some movement has taken place at 15 Market Street which is partially occupied by Watches of Switzerland. Premier Travel and the United Dominions Trust have already moved to temporary offices. Workmen will start shoring up the building from the inside to stabilise it and remove the danger 63 08 03

1963 08 16

Ferry Path houses should be preserved – 63 08 16a

1964 02 29

Planned buildings for St Catharine's and King's colleges – 64 02 29 [446.8.1]

1964 02 29

Wray's Court, Sidney Street to be demolished – 64 02 29

1964 11 16

Fears that the new ultra-modern building in Cambridge market square would bring an outcry from nearby traders have not materialised. Instead many of them say that the building, which replaces Mackintosh's the ironmongers, is an example to be followed. There will be shops on the ground floor and luxury flats above. Mr D.F. Yates, manager of Crown Wallpapers thinks it is an example of what neighbouring premises should look like. Mr A. Hall manager of Saxone Shoe Company agrees. But Mr Victor Balham of Bacon Bros the tobacconists does not think it the best of contemporary architecture. 64 11 16a Market St - Macintosh replacement building opens - new ultra-modern, next Watches of Switzerland [494.4.17]

1964 11 27

Buildings in Jordan's Yard, Round Church Street and Bridge Street should be acquired by council for preservation and extension Park Street car park – 64 11 27i

1964 12 28

Sir – Magdalene College’s plan to pull down a row of cottages, nos.8-18, in Northampton Street and replace them with a garden would alter its character and leave a gap in this distinctive part of old Cambridge. The row at present makes a beautiful curve, a fitting foil to the more splendid Cory House and no.13 Magdalene Street. In view of the college’s highly successful treatment of Magdalene Street where the aspect has been retained, I hope they will find some other solution short of complete demolition – Elizabeth Harland 64 12 28

1965 06 29

King Street: Jesus announce plans redevelop King St includes rerouting Hobson St traffic - 65 06 29 [494.5.2]

1965 07 30

Laurie & McConnal modernising the whole of their shop frontage in Fitzroy Street; new display windows will replace the arcade-type ones there since 19th century – 65 07 30a

1966 07 15

Old Post Office, Petty Cury, Ministry of Pensions manned by a single clerk in room that precious housed counter activities; small corner occupied by National Savings Movement. Wide corridors lead to Overseas Students Club used by 10-12 students. Petty Cury shops well-maintained but accommodation above ground floor level has been condemned for years. Must all be demolished – letter – 66 07 15

1967 10 13

Emmanuel Street: demolition [7.3]

1968

Bene’t Street: property adjoining Barclays Bank demolished [IC.1.16]

1968

Corn Exchange Street: Masonic Hall demolished [IC.3.8]

1968

Trinity Street: Matthews site redeveloped for Heffers [IC 12.2]

1969

King Street: Jesus plan development [7.4]

1969

Trinity Street: Matthews old shop (formerly largest grocery shop in Cambridge) to become Heffers while large shop Sidney St (formerly Eaden Lilley) becomes Sainsbury who want to replace antiquated premises Sidney Street with two new shops - Sidney St & Burleigh St area [494.5.14, 5.15]

1969 06 02

Trumpington Street: 300 year old stables behind Lt Rose demolished for student accommodation - perhaps Hobson’s [17.6]

1970

1970

Kite: comprehensive development agreed [2.4]

1970

Lion Yard: plan accepted [2.3]

1971 07 13

Elizabeth Bridge opened [2.5]

1971 06 04

Jesus Lane demolition [7.4]

1971 09 04

King Street: architects slammed for 'inhumanity', have ruined environment , Architectural Review claims – 71 09 04

1971 06 19

Bridge Street debacle: the two faces of Cambridge – laments crumbling buildings; feature 'A city in shackles' – 71 06 10 & a

1972

Clement Place - thatched cottage demolished [7.5]

1972 02 01

Petty Cury: pedestrianisation. Councillor Gough-Goodman dines in Petty Cury as no entry experiment starts – 72 02 01, 01a [2.6]

1972

The preservation and restoration of the historic frontage of 10-16 Bridge Street, Cambridge is assured in new plans for a 40,000 sq.ft. development by the Scottish Mutual Assurance Company. An earlier version of the scheme was turned down after a public inquiry. It involved knocking down the corner building and replacing it with a new structure which the inspector at the inquiry described as "aggressive in design". The new plans preserve the Bridge Street frontage. The scheme occupies a prominent site at the corner of Round Church Street and Bridge Street which has been a topic of heated discussion between developers, planners and preservationists for several years c72 08 29

1972 01 18

Norwich Union building, corner St Andrew's Street and Downing Street – history – 72 01 18 & a b

1972 01 28

Shelley Row redevelopment and archaeology of area – feature – 72 01 28

1975

St Andrews Hill : Bun Shop & Whitmores bottling factory demolished [IC.1.1]

1976

Bridge St : lost facade comes to light in restoration [446.9.5]

1977

Bridge street : new development & restored frontage [4.26]

1977

Bridge St - The new Bridge House office block and restored 16th-century buildings in Bridge Street, Cambridge, are a landmark and inspiration, said the Mayor, Coun Bob May, when he opened the £1.3 million redevelopment. "If only the architects had been involved at Lion Yard then things might have turned out differently there", he said. He praised the skill with which the historic and environmentally important site had been handled by the Scottish Mutual Assurance Society and its architects, Saunders Boston of Cambridge. It was an outstanding example of how a new building could be fitted into an old environment and how old buildings could be preserved. CDN c 19.4.1977

1979

Rose Crescent: rebuilt 'best planning gain for long time' [2.14]

1980 12 16

Sussex Street shops – 80 12 16

1980

1982 10 14

Bridge Street: One of Cambridge's most successful rebuilding schemes, Bridge House in Bridge Street, has received a top conservation award. The project involved rebuilding and refurbishing 16th century buildings which had fallen into a sad state of decay by 1970 – Tudor houses no longer fit to live in and derelict workshops. It was judged to be an outstanding piece of restoration work: the frontage was preserved and behind it was built a new office-block which can hardly be seen from the street. 82 10 14a

1983

New Square: returned to grass [IC.7.20]

1983 02 22

Coronation Street used to be a real community with two breweries, three pubs, a general store, hardware shop, tailors' and a greengrocer's. Small houses with pretty cottage gardens lined the street and the inhabitants knew each other's business in the nicest possible way. Change came when the council pulled down a line of old homes and rehoused many streeters in nearby flatblocks. More work bulldozed the Victorian streetscape and now it is one of the most modern-looking in Cambridge, clean and possibly rather sterile. 83 02 22a

1983 07 01

Hobson Street: County Hall sold to college in one biggest deals in city location many years, £1.25M [13.7]

1984 05 16

The Queen gave her royal seal of approval to Cambridge's multi-million pound Grafton Centre when she unveiled a plaque to mark its official opening. Cheering crowds queued for hours to glimpse her. 84 05 16 p12

1986 01 22

King's Parade: Corpus plan facelift when lease run out 1987 - new rooms, offices, revamping buildings [14.1]

1986

Quayside: demolition [IC.10.6]

1987 09 14

Developers are eyeing-up property in Newmarket Road. They have approached Greene King about acquiring the Seven Stars, Corner House, Five Bells, Rose and Crown and Bird in Hand public houses. Already Eastern Gas has sold off more than three acres of the former gas works and the disused Chapman and Arber scrap yard has also attracted interest. Gray's the tobacconist has sold up, Jack Reynold's sweet shop closes next month and Grosvenor will soon start work on the old Carioca nightclub site which will house offices and small businesses. 87 09 14b

1987 11 05

Ferry Path houses once threatened with demolition – review – 87 11 05a

1988 06 25

Market Street: plan to reshape Market Passage & link with Rose Crescent to form modern shopping precinct ¢CEN 25.6.88

1989 09 14

Market Hill - Marks & Spencer open although city refused planning permission 3 years ago ¢CEN 14.9.89

1988 09 23

Regent St - in the last few years Regent Street has rapidly changed from retail trading to mainly commercial and therefore ceased to attract the shopper” ¢CEN 23.9.88

1990 07 18

Quayside shops and office development formally opened by Duke of Edinburgh – 90 07 18a